Roxbury, Feb. 19, 1874.

My dear Fanny:

Your last letter relieves us of all anxiety as to the safe arrival of the box. It was sent, not in accordance with my judgment, but rather in consequence of Ellie's desire, readily acquiesced in by your mother — all most lovingly intended. We all participated in sending what was contained therein, and any special recognition is unnecessary. I was particularly averse to sending the shoes, because convinced the chances of a misfit would be almost certain, but I was overruled. Of course, we shall not repeat our love-tokens in that form again, even though you should remain abroad for an indefinite period. But we shall be confidently looking for you early in the summer, and trust all the circumstances will be favorable to your coming.

It was indeed unfortunate for you that our good friend John Ritchie went to see you while all the little ones were down with the measles and whooping-cough; but he has written very fully to Mrs. Lewis as to the exceedingly kind attentions shown to him by yourself and Harry, and his praise of you was as warm as it was gratifying to us. Poor fellow! He writes from Vevey, and says he has not had a well day since he left Boston; the voyage and the constant land travelling having quite upset his physical system.

The many crimes and outrages you see reported as taking place among us give you a good deal of pain, as they should, but there is another side to the picture, and I hope you will not fail to set forth to your German acquaintances wherein, after all, our

land has blessings, privileges, rights, and improvements far beyond those of any other country. With our multitudinous publications, eager to publish every deed or shocking ~~occurrence~~ outrage that has occurred, or that has been manufactured for sensational purposes, the worst of us is made manifest to the world; but it is not the fashion or the privilege in Europe to do the same thing, and an immense amount of wrong-doing is there kept from coming to the light. One of the worst papers of the kind referred to is the Chicago Tribune.

John Ritchie should stick to his native colors abroad, as he did during the late rebellion, nor be willing to be taken for any one else than an American. Don't let false impressions obtain about us.

The woman suffrage question was argued yesterday and to-day before a Joint Committee of the Legislature in the Hall of the House of Representatives, which was crowded to overflowing by a most intelligent and respectable audience. I spoke on both occasions, but our Boston papers make no reports that give the least idea of what was uttered. I think a most favorable impression was created, and that we shall have a favorable report from the Committee.

Williams leaves in the morning for New York, to bring Ellie home with him.

Farewell, darling! I trust the dear children are now much better than when you wrote. Love to Harry.

Your loving Father.